

ABSTRACT

It is intended to clarify a transportation system participating in the uric acid uptake in vascular smooth muscle cells (VSMCs) and provide a novel remedy, a preventive or a treating agent for vascular disorders, hypertension and renal disorders with the use of a drug participating in this transportation system. It is also intended to provide a novel screening system for a remedy, a preventive or a treating agent for vascular disorders, hypertension and renal disorders with the use of such a transportation system. Namely, a medicinal composition for healing, preventing or treating vascular disorders, hypertension and renal disorders which comprises a drug having an effect of inhibiting the uric acid uptake by a uric acid transporter URAT1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; and a method of screening a substance efficacious for healing, preventing or treating vascular disorders, hypertension and renal disorders which comprises using a cell line expressing URAT1 in the presence or absence of a test compound and assaying the uric acid uptake level, cell proliferation ability or the amount of a monocyte chemotactic factor produced by the cells.